

A COWARDLY PRINCE

Takes His Own Life Rather Than Face an Outraged Brother.

RUDOLF DIES BY HIS OWN HAND.

Insanely Officially Said to Have Been the Cause.

TROUBLESOME TIMES IN OLD IRELAND.

Politicians Fear That a Crisis is Rapidly Approaching in France.

The death of the Crown Prince Rudolf is now officially attributed to suicide. The reasons given are varied, but it is openly stated that Rudolf was afraid to meet the anger of a man he had wronged. Nevertheless, all the European courts will wear the garb of sorrow for several weeks on his account. Mr. O'Brien still refuses to comply with prison rules and severe measures are threatened.

VIENNA, February 1.—The mystery surrounding the death of Crown Prince Rudolf is taking a deeper hue. It has been officially announced that the Prince committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with a revolver, the weapon, with one chamber discharged, being found by the bedside. The autopsy, which was performed by Prof. Wiedehopfer, disclosed a large wound in the side of the head which must have caused instant death, the pericranium being torn and the skull bones partially shattered. The position of the body and the finding of the revolver close to the right hand of the Prince prove conclusively that he committed suicide.

The reasons given here for the suicide are many and varied. Some hold that the deed was committed in a paroxysm of insanity; others that the Prince was harassed by debts of honor. Considerable excitement is being caused here by the news of publication in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, to the effect that Crown Prince Rudolf committed suicide because it was optional with him to take his own life or to fight a duel with the brother of a princess, who is a member of one of the highest Austrian families, and whom he has "ruined." When concealment was no longer possible, the princess confessed her shame to her brother, who gave Rudolf the alternative of committing suicide or fighting a duel. It is further claimed that the doctors who were summoned refused to sign a certificate to the effect that Rudolf's death was due to apoplexy, and that a great scene ensued. One of the doctors told the *Vienna Press* the facts which that paper published.

WROTE TO HIS MOTHER.

The only letter left by the Crown Prince was one to his mother, the contents of which have not, and probably will not, be made public. His will, which was made in 1886, leaves his entire property to his daughter, subject to the Crown Prince's debts. It is the personality, except Meyerling and the island of Laccara.

The official statement that the death of the Prince was the result of suicide is the outcome of yesterday's Cabinet meeting, at which Herr von Tisza expressed himself as strongly in favor of stating the details plainly. In this view the Emperor concurred. It is fully confirmed that Rudolf, in conversing with his intimate friends during the last few days, showed an utter weariness of life and betrayed great nervous excitement.

The Berlin *Freisinnige Zeitung* says it doubts whether the latest official version of the cause of Crown Prince Rudolf's death tells the whole truth. In parliamentary circles it is believed that much is still concealed.

THE PRINCE'S DEATH.
The *Neue Presse* has, according to account of the circumstances attending the death of Crown Prince, which it received from an eye witness, written as follows: Crown Prince Rudolf and Count Hohenlohe separated at midnight on Tuesday, Prince Philip, of Coburg, having left the hunting box in the evening. The Crown Prince was up and dressed at 6:30 on Wednesday morning, when he was going to the stable to see his carriage, also instructing the servant to have breakfast ready at 7:30 o'clock. The valet asked whether he might send a groom for the carriage, and the Prince replied, "No, so that he might attend to the breakfast."

SUICIDE OR ASSASSINATION.

Seeing drops of blood on his lips the valet exclaimed, "He has taken strychnine," declaring that in all cases of strychnine poisoning blood comes from the lips. All three immediately withdrew from the room and hurriedly consulted. Count Hohenlohe started for Vienna. The two decided to wait in the next room for the arrival of the commission, but observing that the light burned low and was in danger of being extinguished, they re-entered the room. They then saw a wound in the middle of the forehead and blood streaming from the mouth and the right hand held up to the forehead.

When Count Hohenlohe told the Emperor that Rudolf had taken poison, he said: "I shall not tell the Emperor that," and as until late Wednesday night that Rudolf had committed suicide.

The Paris *Post* insists that Crown Prince Rudolf was assassinated. It comments on the mysterious and premature disappearance of Skobeleff, Katkoff, Chanz, Gambetta, Emperor Frederick and Crown Prince Rudolf, all adversaries of Prince Bismarck, who seems to have destiny at his service.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

In the lower house of the Austrian Parliament to-day President Smolka, referring to the death of the Crown Prince, declared that the sentiment of union between the imperial family and the people was indissoluble, and that the members of the destiny is a fresh spur to induce us to devote all our strength to the Emperor and the Empire. The members stood during the speech, which was received with applause.

In the upper house the President asked for authority to convey to the Emperor and Empress and Crown Princess an expression of sympathy, which was granted by the Emperor. The English court will go into mourning for two weeks. All the Russian court festivities have been abandoned in consequence of the death of the Crown Prince of Austria. The Grand Dukes and members of the diplomatic corps called at the Austrian embassy and tendered their condolences.

ACROSS KOREA.

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